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PATENT

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1631
Sfr**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: Boyce-Jacino *et al.* Examiner: Ardin H. Marschel
Serial No.: 09/097,791 Group Art Unit: 1631
Filed: June 16, 1998
For: *Polymerase Signaling Assay*
Customer No.: 23719

Kalow & Springut LLP
488 Madison Avenue, 19th Floor
New York, New York 10022

May 25, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Dear Sir:

Applicants hereby submit this communication in response to the Non-Final Office Action that was mailed on March 9, 2004 and in light of an Interview with Examiner Marschel on May 21, 2004. In the Office Action, the Examiner set a three-month time period in which to respond. Thus, this response is timely.

Certificate of Mailing Under 37 C.F.R. 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on the date shown below with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

K Padilla
(Signature)

K Padilla
(Printed Name of Person Signing
Certificate)

5/25/04
(Date)